

THE ALMA RECORD

BARCOCK & GROSSKOPF, Proprietors

Published Every Thursday Afternoon at Alma, Gratiot County, Michigan
E. S. BARCOCK, Editor ELINOR G. BARCOCK, Associate Editor

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION
One copy, one year \$2.00 One copy, three months .60
One copy, six months 1.00 Outside of State, one year \$2.50

ADVERTISING RATES

For advertising rates apply for schedule.
Notices of church and social events where admission is charged, regular advertising rates.
Obituary notices, 125 words free, over that, one cent per word. All obituary poetry, one cent per word.
Classified ads, one cent per word each issue, with a minimum price of 25 cents, each in advance; stamps accepted.

The Record is entered at the postoffice at Alma, Michigan, for transmission through the mail as second class matter.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF ALMA, MICHIGAN

THE SCHOOL AMENDMENT

The vote upon the proposed school amendment is a matter of vital importance to the state, and we should consider this matter with an open mind, free from religious or political prejudice, and deal with it in a spirit of tolerance and fairness free from any spirit of bitterness as one Christian with another.

The purpose of this amendment is plainly and undeniably to abolish all parochial and private schools, but especially the various denominational religious schools.

The editor of this paper has had twenty years experience in school work and during that time supervised the work and examined the pupils of the Petoskey Parochial school. That experience proved plainly that the work done in that school was fully the equal of that done in the public schools in every respect, for the pupils of the parochial school passed the state 8th grade examinations with high standings and became good American citizens.

It is a fact that there are no rural parochial schools and that such schools exist only in the larger and more congested communities, hence the vote on this question would not affect the school status of Alma or Gratiot county. The facts are that about one child in seven attends parochial schools and there are 115,000 of these children with approximately 6,000 teachers. It now costs about seventy million dollars for the public schools and in case this amendment passes, it would increase our school operating expenses ten million dollars, and in addition to that a conservative estimate of the cost of equipment to care for these children is fifty million dollars. These facts, which we cannot get away from, are practical objections which should appeal to every thoughtful citizen.

On a matter of this kind, we should give some heed to the opinions of those who know the school business and are in close touch with school activities. Thomas E. Johnson, Supt. of Public Instruction, says: "The proposed school amendment strikes a vital blow at the public school system of the state, especially with regard to the district school."

The president of the Michigan State Normal College, Charles McKenny, says: "My own conviction is that the amendment is a serious mistake. The private schools in Michigan, both Catholic and Protestant, have helped the public schools."

Ex-Governor W. N. Ferris, who conducts the most efficient private school in the United States says: "My own belief is that the aim of the amendment is, primarily, to close the parochial schools. They are all teaching patriotism. They are loyal to the Stars and Stripes. I feel that this is a cowardly attack upon thousands of our best citizens."

The authorities of the great University of Michigan express opinions as follows:

President Emeritus Hutchins: "The proposed amendment, in my judgment, is of doubtful validity, and unwise in the extreme."

Regent W. L. Sawyer, Hillsdale: "The adoption of the amendment to the constitution in opposition to private and parochial schools would be unfortunate and un-American."

Regent L. L. Hubbard, Houghton: "The proposed amendment would be disastrous to public liberty and the rights of every person to pursue religious investigation, and to give religious instruction to his children. The least we can have is personal liberty to our children, religion and morality."

Regent J. O. Murfin, Detroit: "I am against this proposed amendment for a number of reasons. First and foremost it appears to me to be dishonest; it is contrary to sound principles and sound ideas, and it is a most decided step backward. I have yet to learn a good sound argument for it."

Regent Frank Leland, Detroit: "I do not favor the amendment for many reasons. I think it is un-American and in my opinion, its incorporation into the basic law of the commonwealth would be most unwise at any time."

Regent W. L. Clements, Bay City: "I am against the abolishment of parochial schools. They have fulfilled good work in education. Their abolishment by law would be contrary to all principles wherein freedom of thought in religious matters has been long established."

Regent Benjamin Hanchett, Grand Rapids: "I am earnestly opposed to any proposition that would result in the closing of parochial or any private schools that maintain a proper standard of instruction under the banner of American ideals. In the first place I do not believe it is right to attempt to dictate to parents where they shall or shall not send their children to be educated. We have on our accredited list at the University of Michigan a large number of Michigan private schools, the graduates of which enter the university direct on the merits of their credits."

Regent J. E. Beal, Ann Arbor: "If for no other reason than that to close the parochial schools would mean an even greater overcrowding of the public school buildings throughout the state, I should be against the proposed measure. I believe the children in the parochial schools get a great deal of good in the religious instruction they get there, that they would not and do not receive in the public schools. The religious side of these schools is, to my mind, most commendable."

Regent Victor M. Gore, Benton Harbor: "I am squarely opposed to the proposed parochial school amendment. I think it is objectionable from every point of view. I deem it wholly unnecessary for the reason that the legislature has sufficient authority in the premises."

The men who give these opinions are not Catholics or Lutherans, but the best informed Protestant educators of the State of Michigan.

We should thoroughly inform ourselves and vote for the best interests of our state regardless of our religious or political beliefs, to which we are entitled.

THE BONDING ISSUE

Tuesday, the people of Alma will vote upon the most important matter in the history of the city, namely the question of bonding to provide an adequate supply of pure water fit for drinking purposes, as well as an abundance with which to fight fire effectually, to prevent such a disaster as visited St. Johns recently and left the city in darkness and ruin because the people had not been far sighted enough to provide for an emergency.

We all hope to see Alma grow to be the most ideal city in this part of the state. That is a part of our civic ambition. But horse sense tells us that it never will be an ideal city or much more than a third rate overgrown village as long as we are compelled to run to the neighborhood pump for every drink of water, and dare not go to bed at night without uttering a prayer to the good Lord not to permit a small fire and a big wind to come our way at the same time. For we fully realize that it is His infinite mercy and not our wise provision that has preserved us from fire and pestilence in the past.

Granting that mistakes have been made in the past, that does not justify us now in lying down on the job and allowing this important matter to go unprovided for, but rather we should be anxious to correct those mistakes if any were made, save all we possibly can of the money already expended, and provide for the most important item in city welfare.

For our own good and the good of our neighbors we should make the vote unanimous in favor of this bonding issue because a water supply is the first requisite of an ideal city.

MR. ROOT TO MR. COX

In his desire to becloud the league of nations issue, to be apparently for the league as it now stands and yet to appear favorable to reservations that will "clarify" the covenant, Governor Cox challenged Elinor Root to "correct" an alleged "false" statement made by Mr. Root in his Tuesday address at New York. When he challenged Mr. Root the Ohio governor forgot with whom he is dealing.

Mr. Root's reply would cause anyone except an Ohio politician to feel abashed, to say the least. In words which, if they were brutally direct instead of carefully considered, polished and circumspiced, would read, "You don't know what you're talking about." Mr. Root makes the meaning of Article X clear to all. For this we all owe him an expression of gratitude. A portion of the Root telegram to Governor Cox is worth repeating here. He says:

"There is one statement of your telegram that does give a definite idea of where you stand upon what Mr. Wilson declares to be the heart of the league—the general alliance of Article X, by which the United States would undertake to guarantee as against external aggression the territory and independence of every member of the league and to make that guarantee good by war if necessary."

"You say in your telegram that you will accept reservations that will clearly state to our associates in the league that congress and congress alone has the right to declare war, and that 'our constitution sets up limits in legislation or treaty making beyond which we cannot go.'"

"That, it seems, is what you are willing to do about Article X. Well, it is absolutely nothing. Everybody knows already that only congress has a right to declare war and that there are limits to legislation and treaty making power. All governments of all civilized nations know it. You accomplish nothing by telling them of it again."

"The trouble about giving the guaranty provided in Article X is that the making of a treaty containing it is a solemn assurance to all the nations that it is within the treaty making power and that the promise to make war binds congress as fully as it binds all other members of our government to maintain the pledged faith of the United States. In all governments the power to declare war rests somewhere, and an agreement to make war is an agreement that that power shall be so exercised by the officers in whom it rests. A refusal by congress to pass the necessary resolution would simply be a breach of the treaty."

"The real question is whether we shall enter into a guaranty under which the faith of treaties will require congress to pass a resolution declaring war. This is what the president proposed. That is what your telegram makes it clear you propose."

"Your telegram to me undertakes to state your case, and both what you say and what you refrain from saying confirm the understanding I expressed in my speech that your position and purpose are to impose upon the United States the covenant negotiated at Paris without any real change whatever."

The democratic nominee, and his party with him, had determined to make the league of nations the real issue of the campaign, which they proposed to wind up with a nationwide plea to the people to stand by the president—and Governor Cox. Mr. Root has taken all smoke out of those plans. He has demolished the whole false structure of political buncombe which Governor Cox so laboriously has built up. The whirlwind wind-up of the democratic standard-bearer and his followers promises to be only a whirlwind with a boomerang appendix.—Grand Rapids News.

FERRIS VS. AMENDMENT

The amendment proposed has, on cursory reading, a very innocent appearance. If the amendment is interpreted with exactness, it means several things. In this brief statement I am not going to discuss the amendment in detail. One thing I'm sure, it has for one of its objects the closing of the parochial schools of Catholics, Holland Reformed and Lutherans. Beyond a doubt it would affect a goodly number of private schools that are attended by pupils under sixteen years of age.

My own belief is that the aim of the amendment is, primarily, to close the parochial schools. I am too much of a democrat not to know that any attempt on the part of the state to make an attempt of this kind would be ruinous to Michigan democracy. I am talking about constitutional democracy. What possible objections can a loyal American citizen raise to parochial schools? They are all teaching the subjects in the English language. They are all teaching patriotism. They are loyal to the Stars and Stripes. I feel that this is a cowardly attack upon thousands of our best citizens.

While I was Governor of Michigan several attempts were made to close parochial schools that did not succeed. I could see no possible objection to the teaching of religion in the parochial schools of the state, so long as it is no interference with our political or social right. Why should this quarrel among churches be kept up any more than a quarrel among nations? Isn't it high time we Americans practiced a little wholesome religion?

I refuse to discuss the amendment from the standpoint of what the state would lose financially by closing the parochial schools. I refuse to discuss what other organizations would lose by the passing of this amendment. I concentrate my forces on a religious bias that is involved in the amendment.

The amendment should be overwhelmingly defeated. The recent war taught us that Catholics, Lutherans, Methodists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Christian Scientists and other denominations can all work to-

gether. Our democracy should guarantee this privilege.

If necessary, I am willing to go forth and try to show my friends that this amendment is un-American; therefore, dangerous and undesirable.

WOODBRIDGE N. FERRIS.

Big Rapids, Mich., June 9, 1920.

FARM BUREAU

Drive for Membership to Be Started in Gratiot.

The Farm Bureau drive for membership in Gratiot county is soon to take place. A temporary organization has been perfected for this purpose. F. B. Himes of Fulton has been chosen as campaign manager and Clayton C. Cook of Shiawassee county will represent the State Farm Bureau. Offices have been provided or temporarily in the basement of the court house in Ithaca.

Every township in the county will be canvassed by solicitors of the State Bureau, who will call on each farmer. Local drivers will be secured to drive and introduce these solicitors. Ten drivers will be needed in each township, eight for the first day of solicitation and two for follow up men. Township chairmen will secure the drivers.

Meetings will be held in each township four or five days previous to the canvass. A representative of the State Farm Bureau will be present at these meetings to give detailed information. It is expected to start the drive November third in North Shade and New Haven townships.

The eye of every county in the State will be watching Gratiot in this drive. The State organization is expecting Gratiot to roll up a membership of over 2,000.

FAVOR IT

Business Men Favor Water Extension Bonds.

That the proposed bond issue for \$800,000, which the registered voters of the city will pass upon at the election Tuesday, is a proposition that Alma people should give favorable consideration, because of the future effect that it will have on the welfare of the community, is easily seen from the opinions of some of the leading business men of Alma.

The Record has made it a point to interview some of the well known business men of the city in regard to the proposition this week, and their opinions are not only interesting, but bring out some valuable points to be considered in connection with the proposed issue.

Due to lack of space they cannot be given, but one, rendered by Harry Gerber follows:

Harry Gerber, president Alma Board of Trade and manager of the Home Lumber & Fuel Company: "I will vote for the water extension bonds because pure water in the mains will make Alma a better town to live in. Any increase in taxes occasioned by the needed public improvements will come back with interest in improved property values and increased business. I am not competent to judge of the practicality of the plan from an engineering standpoint, but the fact that Mr. Reynolds recommends it, is sufficient evidence to me of its feasibility."

BOXING MATCH

Jimmy Brady to Appear Here Again on Tuesday Evening.

"Bobbie" Reakes, well known Lansing promoter, will stage a big boxing show here Tuesday night that will bring Jimmy Brady, Michigan lightweight champion, up against "Chief" Gatcher of Mt. Pleasant in a ten round go.

Alma fight fans recently had a chance to see Gatcher in action, and were well pleased with the fighting spirit shown by the Indian, and should welcome the opportunity to see him in action against the Michigan lightweight champ, as it is certain to make a hot mill.

There will be a six round semi-final between "Rough House" Gipe of Jackson and Jack Smith of Toledo, and two good four round preliminaries.

Reakes has arranged to stage the boxing show in the post office hall. General admission is \$1.00, and ring side seats are \$2.00, plus the war tax.

EMERSON

On Thursday evening a number of neighbors and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Mixer, who are moving west of Alma, gave them a pleasant farewell surprise at their home. The evening was pleasantly spent in visiting and this was followed by a delightful lunch. In behalf of those present Mrs. Ophelia Presler presented Mr. and Mrs. Mixer with a cut-glass water set.

Mrs. Peters entertained the boys of the school with a "weenie" roast one evening last week, the occasion being the birthday of her son, Max, and his friend, Lott Bracon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Schlafly and daughter, Freda, and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Baro of Mt. Pleasant spent Sunday at the Roy Griffith home.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hetzmar are visiting with relatives in Detroit. William Reed has returned from McBride, where he has been assisting his father.

Elmer Harrier held an auction sale Wednesday and expects to move to St. Louis very soon.

Howard Smith and wife spent the latter part of last week in Belding visiting with relatives.

There will be a chicken pie supper at the home of Mrs. William Reed, a mile south of Church Crossing, Friday evening, November 5. Supper from 5:00 o'clock until all are served.

A. Mann and wife of Alma, and Roy Griffith and wife went to Saginaw Saturday.

Miss Inez Vresler was home over Sunday from Verrington College in St. Louis.

SCHEDULES OUT

M. I. A. A. Announces Cards for All Sports.

Recently at a meeting held in Albion the basketball, baseball and football schedules of the Michigan Intercollegiate were arranged by the coaches. Alma will have ten basketball games, nine baseball frays and five football battles in the association.

During the M. I. A. A. basketball season Alma will, when playing association games, get collegiate contests on both Friday and Saturday nights as a rule.

In baseball the schedule has been so arranged, that while only nine association games are billed, Alma will get three of them in a single week on successive days. The three are with the strongest colleges of the association, May 19 with Ypsilanti, May 20 with Kalamazoo and May 21 with Albion. Just why these three games were bunched this way is not known, but it is certain that unless Alma has three good hurlers in baseball, the M. I. A. A. title chances will be mighty slim, based upon the arrangement of these three games.

In football next year Alma will have five association games, although a sixth game, with Hope College, is also listed.

The M. I. A. A. schedules follow:

Basketball
January 8—Olivet at Kalamazoo.
January 14—Kazoo at Adrian.
January 21—Kazoo at Ypsilanti; Olivet at Albion.
January 22—Adrian at Alma.
January 26—Ypsilanti at Albion.
January 29—Ypsi at Adrian; Albion at Alma.
February 4—Albion at Ypsilanti.
February 5—Adrian at Ypsilanti.
February 11—Alma at Olivet; Albion at Hillsdale.
February 12—Albion at Adrian; Alma at Kazoo.
February 16—Albion at Kazoo.
February 18—Alma at Adrian.
February 19—Alma at Albion.
February 24—Albion at Olivet.
February 25—Kazoo at Alma.
February 26—Ypsilanti at Alma.
March 2—Kazoo at Albion.
March 3—Adrian at Ypsilanti.
March 4—Alma at Hillsdale; Albion at Ypsilanti.
March 5—Alma at Ypsilanti.
March 11—Adrian at Albion.

Baseball
April 15—Olivet at Kazoo.
April 16—Albion at Adrian; Olivet at Kazoo.
April 23—Albion at Ypsilanti; Adrian at Alma.
April 27—Adrian at Ypsilanti.
April 29—Alma at Hillsdale.
April 30—Albion at Olivet; Alma at Adrian; Ypsilanti at Kazoo.
May 4—Kazoo at Albion.
May 7—Albion at Alma; Ypsi at Adrian.
May 13—Kazoo at Adrian.
May 14—Olivet at Albion; Ypsilanti at Alma.
May 18—Adrian at Alma; Kazoo at Olivet.
May 19—Alma at Ypsilanti.
May 20—Alma at Kazoo.
May 21—Alma at Albion.
May 25—Ypsilanti at Albion.
May 27—Kazoo at Ypsilanti.
May 28—Kazoo at Alma.

May 30—Albion at Kazoo.

June 4-4—Field days at Albion.

Football

October 15—Hope at Alma; Kazoo at Olivet.
October 22—Albion at Olivet; Albion at Ypsilanti; Kazoo at Hillsdale.
October 29—Albion at Hillsdale; Olivet at Alma.
November 5—Albion at Kazoo; Alma at Hillsdale; Adrian at Ypsilanti.
November 12—Alma at Albion; Ypsilanti at Hillsdale.
November 19—Albion at Ypsilanti; Kazoo at Alma; Adrian at Olivet.

SCRIPTURE

James 3: 11-18

Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

ENDORSES HARDING

Saturday Evening Post Give Harding Fine Endorsement.

"We do not need masters of diplomacy, renowned statesmen, financial Napoleons and dwellers in Al-tria, Bulgaria or Russia. We want common honesty, straight dealing and clean American standards. "We do not want prophets of the new and the complex, but doers of the old and the obvious whose first sermon will be setting an example. "We hear a good deal of criticism mental fireworks in stock-rocketts of speech with which to call forth the delightful Ah, Ah's of the crowd. "He is accused of being an old-fashioned rather obvious American, who keeps his feet on the ground as well as his ear to it, who has w practical, business-like view of men and of government."

"No one has charged him with being an experimental idealist. "If this sketch of Harding is accurate and the detail working plans bear it out, the country is fortunate, for that is the kind of a leadership it needs right now, and if Maine is a true prophet, he will be the next President."—The Saturday Evening Post.

DIED DURING NIGHT

Melvin Sharrar, a prominent farmer living southeast of this city, died at his farm home, about midnight, following an illness of some months duration. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

Election returns by Western Union—Strand Tuesday—adv.

The Record can do your Job Printing—call or telephone—adv.

Leahy's Grocery

1216 East Superior St.

Special Cash Sale for Saturday, Oct. 30

FEW ARTICLES LISTED HERE BELOW IN YOUR FAVOR FOR THIS DATE ONLY

Lily White Flour	\$1.79
Made Rite Flour	\$1.83
St. Louis Bread Flour	\$1.60
St. Louis Select Flour	\$1.45
P and G Soap, 4 bars for	30c
Large Package Snowboy	22c
Fortune Macaroni	8c
Best Table Salt	7c
Small Pet Milk	7c
Tall size Pet Milk	16c
Toilet Paper, 3 rolls for	10c
5 lb. sack Famo Pancake Flour	38c
Shredded Wheat Biscuit, pkg.	15c
Granulated Sugar	12½c
King Nut Oil	34c

DODGE BROTHERS BUSINESS CAR

Faithful, daily service; low running cost; infrequent repairs—

That is the experience of thousands of users of Dodge Brothers Business Car, in every state in the Union.

The gasoline consumption is unusually low
The tire mileage is unusually high

STEVENS & ROTH BROS.
ALMA, MICH.

